



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Shiro KAWASHIMA et al.

Confirmation No.: 3309

Serial No.: 10/606,282

Group Art Unit: 1775

Filed: June 26, 2003

Examiner: Robert R. Koehler

For: SURFACE-TREATED PRODUCT, SURFACE-TREATMENT METHOD, AND  
SURFACE-TREATMENT APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandra, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Only a copy of EP 1 065 345 A is supplied, as JP 5-149204 was previously disclosed in an Information Disclosure Statement filed October 2, 2003.

09/22/2005 SZEWDIE1 00000126 10606282

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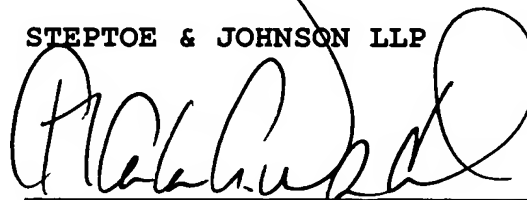
Attorney Docket No. 28953.7241 C2

The references were cited in a Partial European Search Report dated August 10, 2005. A copy of the Partial European Search Report is enclosed.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP



Charles A. Wendel

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September 21, 2005  
Date

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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

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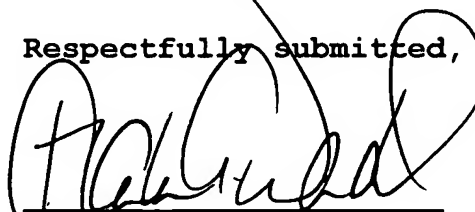
Sir:

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Date:

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT**

Examiner: Robert R. KOEHLER	Group Art Unit: 1775
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Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.